

In fifteen states there are republican governors and in twenty-three democrats. In eighteen legislatures the republicans are in the majority, while of the remaining twenty the democrats have nineteen and the Independents one.

The plague has broken out at Bagdad. This is unpleasant news on the opening of a war that threatens the development of camp diseases, and which necessarily must lead to epidemic maladies more or less malignant. Neither the Turks nor Russians pay much attention to personal cleanliness, the former not taking off their clothing when retiring to sleep, and the latter being very economical in the use of soap. Military operations are conducted under great difficulties in Turkey. Many of the fortresses to which siege must be laid are situated in elevated regions, where snow and frost cover the ground six months in the year. Others, and particularly those on the Danubian frontier, lie in swampy tracts, where fever and pestilence find their choicest breeding places. The losses by battle in campaigns in Turkey are much less than by malarial complaints, thousands being swept away by pestilential fevers who have escaped the perils of pitched battle and the cannonade of beleaguered outposts. Unnumbered woes will be inflicted upon the people of Turkey by the war now actually begun, but it is to be hoped that they, as well as the outside world, will not be subjected to the epidemic scourges against which all the resources of medical science seem to be absolutely powerless.

THE PENSION BUSINESS.

The cabinet had the matter of pensions under consideration at the meeting on Tuesday. A correspondent says: Under the law the president is authorized to establish pension agencies wherever in his judgment the public interest and the convenience of the pensioners require, but the number of such agencies shall in no case exceed three to each state and territory. Under this authority the number of pension agents now in commission numbers sixty. The minimum pay of pension agents is fixed at \$4,000 per annum, exclusive of certain allowances for clerk hire, office rent, etc., which would make the aggregate expense for annually disbursing the pension appropriation about \$300,000. It is now proposed to reduce the number of pension agents from sixty to twenty, which will result in an annual saving of about 60 per cent. of the amount now expended for the purpose. It is believed that by a reorganization of the present system twenty agents will be sufficient to disburse the pension fund, and the cabinet agreed that the agencies can be reduced to that number without interfering with the convenience of the pensioners.

The American Novel.

The great American novel is in the far future. It cannot be written until all the railroads are laid. When the house is built then you can build it. Dickens found character ready for his hand. He did not create it. In America there are no fixed characters. The people are constantly changing. To-day you see a grand man in the field, his hair blown back by the winds and his breast bared to the sun. To-morrow he has sold his farm, his family and fortune are in a covered wagon, and he is climbing the Rocky Mountains. The next year you find him a congressman—or a filibuster. He will not sit long enough to be photographed. There are, therefore, no American novels of character. Only the Indians never change. They are "fixed cussed ones."

Bismarck Indulges in a Fable.

Speaking of his retirement, recently, Prince Bismarck remarked: "When a man starts early in the morning on a gunning tour he commences by firing at any game which comes in his way, going even out of his path to kill a quail or a partridge. Later in the day he becomes more furtive, and as night approaches, with his game-bag well filled, he comes to a cross a field to kill even a hare which his dog had started from cover. But should some one say to the sportsman, 'Just below here you will find a wild boar, a superb fellow!' it awakens his ardor and inspires a wish to crown his day's work by a conquest of some importance. I have been on my feet a long time. I am tired. Let Bulwer or Compton bring down the quail or the hare. Should you find a wild boar call upon me. I will come." Is the wild boar another name for the Russian bear?

Call on Ashby for Window Shades and Fixtures, Cornices and Lambrequins, of the best style and workmanship.

THE DEPARTURE OF EX-PRESIDENT GRANT FOR EUROPE.

Philadelphia Ledger, April 28. At noon on Thursday, May 17, General Grant, accompanied by Mrs. Grant and their youngest son, Jesse, will sail for Liverpool from this port, on board the American Line steamship Indiana. President Hayes and the Cabinet proffered officially to General Grant and family a passage to Europe on a government vessel, but the ex-President preferred sailing as a private citizen. Several other steamship companies invited General Grant to accept passage by their vessels, but he preferred to sail in the only transatlantic line carrying the American flag.

A HARD CASE.

The following comes to us from De Witt county: Late on Saturday evening our ex-county treasurer, L. D. Hovey, was arrested at the instance of his bondsmen, and, in default of security, he was incarcerated in the county jail. It might be well to state that the ex-treasurer, when he stepped down and out of office, held in his possession several thousand (\$3,000) dollars of railroad taxes that had been enjoined by the supervisors, we believe, Mr. Hovey, instead of putting the money in a bank where it would be safe, let it out to irresponsible parties, who have misappropriated it or become insolvent and unable to pay back to him the several amounts which they borrowed and he is unable to satisfy his bondsmen. At a meeting on Saturday he came frankly and told them the circumstances and said he was willing to abide the consequences. Thereupon the bondsmen held a consultation, and agreed that to save themselves he must be put in jail, where he is at the present time. Mr. Hovey has heretofore been highly respected, and it is a sad blow to him and his family that circumstances such as these should overtake him at the extreme age of sixty-nine. A strenuous effort is being made in his behalf, and in all probability before the week is over, he will be released from custody. The old gentleman has, during his life-time, been subject to a great many adversities financially and otherwise. In the last few years he has been the victim of financial ruin, having lost about \$7,000, and to-day he is nearly destitute of the necessities of life.

HAYES' POLICY IN NEW ENGLAND.

(L. Q. W.'s Washington Special to the Courier-Journal.) The Hon. Wm. E. Chandler, who has just returned from New England, says that, though the papers there sustain the President's Southern policy, the masses of the New England Republicans condemn it. In regard to Mr. Blaine, with whom Mr. Chandler has relations of special intimacy, he says Mr. Blaine will occupy an advanced position as an opponent of Mr. Hayes' policy in regard to South Carolina and Louisiana, but will not make regular war on the administration. He says that Mr. Blaine's course will have an eye to the carrying of Maine in the September election. Mr. Chandler is of the opinion that if the President's policy were endorsed by the State convention, the Republicans would lose Maine, or barely carry it, but that if the convention takes the opposite ground, Maine will be carried for the Republicans by 10,000 majority. The significant part of this programme is the avowal of the purpose to pass in the Republican State convention a resolution antagonizing the policy of President Hayes.

KENTUCKY LAWS.

Cincinnati Enquirer. The injunction system has come to its ripe perfection in Kentucky. They enjoin the execution of the criminal laws. The Sunday baseball players successfully enjoined the officers from interfering with their Sunday games at Ludlow, and yesterday they gave out with all the holy calm that should characterize baseball on a Sabbath afternoon. They do not expect to win against the law, but expect to run the game into the dark and side the season over. Mr. Goss and Mr. Allen should have enjoined the officers before they had taken this precedent. If they have fought openly in some circus lot in Covington. Hereafter, when any gentleman desires to shoot a friend in Kentucky, all he has to do is to file his petition announcing his intention, and praying an injunction to restrain the authorities and all others from interfering with him or impeding his escape. Before the injunction can be dissolved he may have reached the Turkish army. The system is beautiful.

Remember, B. Einstein is still selling his best prints 10 yards for \$1.00.

The Tilden Title Tribulation.

Washington Special. The remarks attributed to Governor Hendricks by the report of a San Francisco journal have excited some comment here. Although probably not accurately reported, they are accepted by some persons as an indication that a serious effort is soon to be made to assert Mr. Tilden's title to the Presidential office by legislative and judicial proceedings. That such proceedings have been carefully considered, discussed, and to some extent arranged for, is beyond doubt; but the impression obtains that a large number of Southern democrats will discourage any effort of the kind, and that consequently nothing will come of the proposed line of action. I doubt very much whether Gov. Hendricks would favor it.

Parson Browlow's Appearance.

N.Y. Sun. Senator Browlow was six feet in height and of a spare, stooping figure. His face was dark and smooth, and his intensely black hair was but little silvered to the last. His aspect was grave, and he laughed seldom. He prided himself upon never having played a card, sworn, drank a dram of liquor, except for medicinal purposes, smoked a cigar or chewed. He never, he said, attended a theater or a horse race, and never courted but one woman, and her he married. He had seven children.

The Philadelphia Times desires to have the exhilarating spelling bee revived for the benefit of students of the European war. The name of the Russian chief of staff, it suggests, is a good word to begin with. One important fact the Times has overlooked: there are about three correct ways of spelling the name of every town in European Turkey, and the entertainment can be varied at any time by a dispute as to the best authority. Webster's unabridged is a court no King can corrupt, but its jurisdiction does not extend over the war maps.

Extract from a letter from Atchison, Kan.: "The ground is tremendously dry here; the big rain of last week did not reach the ground; the grasshoppers stood on their hind legs and drank the water as fast as it fell! So I am informed, but this may not be true."

St. Petersburg, May 3.—Official intelligence from the Caucasian frontier gives an account of military operations from the 28th ult. These were mostly cavalry reconnoissances, and one of which succeeded in destroying telegraphic communications from Kars to Erzerum, for a distance of ten versts. Relative to operations about Kars, the official report says Gen. Melnikoff, with the object of supporting his cavalry, left his camp on April 20, accompanied by 12 battalions, 40 pieces of artillery, and a large force of Cossacks. His cavalry reached Vinkoff on the evening of the 30th. After a two-hour artillery engagement eight Turkish battalions, with field guns, issued from the fortress of Kars, and occupied a position protected by fortifications. The Russian artillery fire dismounted one Turkish gun. Gen. Melnikoff, on May 1, leaving a body of cavalry at Vinkoff, returned with the remainder of his forces to the camp at Ziamass. The Russian loss was one killed and five wounded. Russians took over 100 Turkish prisoners. The population of the occupied territory is so friendly that Gen. Melnikoff is about to form a cavalry regiment of native volunteers.

TRENTON, N. J., May 3.—The New Brunswick Presbyterianian assembled this morning to consider charges of heresy against Rev. John Miller, a leading preacher of the Presbyterian Church, in that he has published a book denying the trinity and the immortality of the soul. Rev. Dr. Gosman is the presiding moderator. A number of eminent divines are present, and the trial excites a good deal of interest. Dr. Steddeford presented the charges. Miller said in reply that his book does not strike at the vitals of religion, and therefore does not contradict the profession of faith. No man in the church held to the Calvinistic doctrine with greater boldness and tenacity than he. He believed in Christ and in His ransom; he believed that the Father was good, the Son was good, and the Holy Ghost was good, but he did not believe in the trinity; those were separate. Mr. Miller defended his disbelief in the immortality of the soul. Luther opposed it, many eminent men opposed it, and he did not believe he would be deposed for opposing it, nor for abandoning the doctrine of the trinity and fixing himself on the divinity of Christ and looking to Him as God. The doctrine of the trinity, as commonly held, he declared could not be explained by any theologian present.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—It is rumored to night that a political combination has been effected which will secure Gen. Banks as Speaker of the next House of Representatives. To night it is stated on authority of a member of the Cabinet that the date heretofore fixed upon for the commencement of the extra session of Congress, viz: June 4, will be advanced and formally inserted to-morrow in the draft of a proclamation, which will be then ready for promulgation.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The President said a gentleman from Petersburg, Va., who in behalf of the citizens of his place, solicited the President to visit that city on his contemplated southern tour, that he would with pleasure visit Petersburg, Richmond and other cities, and become acquainted with the citizens throughout the south, after the special session.

LONDON, May 3.—In the House of Commons Lord Brough said the bishop of the Black Sea, the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles had not yet been established.

TELEGRAPHIC.

THE WAR.

CONFLICTING REPORTS OF BATTLES.

Bombardment of Ordesa Begun.

Tweed Making More Revelations.

The President Going South TO LOOK AFTER HIS POLICY.

NEW YORK, May 3.—The Woodin investigation is refreshing Tweed's memory, and the prisoner of Ludlow street promises to supplement his confession with additional revelations showing how political battles were won and legislative triumphs achieved. To one prominent politician, whose name has not heretofore been mentioned, he will be prepared to give the name and details when called upon to do so. Cardinal O'Brien Bryant, who managed to persuade Tweed he was acting as Chas. O'Connor's messenger, induced Tweed to make a statement, supported by affidavit, sworn to before William D. Gardner, book-keeper at Ludlow street jail, and accompanied by thirty-two checks and four notes signed by Richard B. Connelly, aggregating \$265,000, and endorsed by Tweed. These documents, Bryant said, were desired by O'Connor, who had sent him for them, and upon which O'Connor had promised that the prisoner should be released. Seven of the thirty-two checks were given to Peter B. Sweeney, Smith, and Abram Von Voobten, aggregating over \$700,000. The checks were all dated Nov. 1870. Legislation upon the Tweed charter was in March, 1870. The remainder of the checks were dated in 1868. Nine were given to the persons above named and to R. D. Barber, one check to the latter being for \$60,000. The four Connelly notes were dated in 1870, and were negotiated through the Tenth National Bank and Central National Bank. They were taken up by Tweed on Connelly's failure to pay, and will doubtless be turned over to the city as part of Tweed's assets in case his proposition is accepted. The statement in the hands of the attorney general would occupy twelve columns of close type. It gives the exact narrative of how the ring was formed. The statement begins with the manner in which Tweed, John T. Hoffman, Geo. W. McCann and Connelly, back in 1865 to 1866, were accustomed to meet daily at lunch in a little room attached to the kitchen of the old court house, to discuss political matters. This cotemporally dissolved, and then a corrupt ring was formed, consisting of Tweed, Connelly, Sweeney, Hall and Woodward, with other minor allies met also daily in the same room, and later in Tweed's office in Duane street. Hall, the statement declares, at first received ten per cent. of all the proceeds, but when the receipts began to come in not quite so briskly, his share was cut down to five per cent., with which he was much dissatisfied, and because of which he frequently threatened to break up the combination. The statement also shows in detail the manner in which the bills were doctored by the ring after coming from the board of supervisors, and afterwards from the board of audit. Already fraudulent in many of its items, new charges would be interlined between original items, and totals changed to correspond, so that a bill of \$100,000, as certified by the clerk of the boards named, would be sent to auditor Watson and raised to \$400,000 or \$500,000, and be then duly certified to by him. The statement also mentions a legislator whose rooms Tweed frequently visited. To him Tweed never directly paid any money, but opening the Bible, which lay on his host's table, Tweed would place between the leaves a pile of bank bills, and then go. That person always voted for Tweed's measures. Tweed says he kept his money in a special safe in one of his rooms, and that a large amount was there, and that either he, his wife or a trusted friend was always on guard over it.

ST. LOUIS, May 3.—A dispatch from Jefferson City to the Dispatch says: The little town of Cedar City, on the river, was thrown into a terrible state of excitement last evening, by the rape of Mrs. Henry McKimlin, by a negro named Jack Graves. She had been visiting two sick friends, and while returning home about dusk, accompanied by her little daughter, six years old, Graves sprang upon her from behind a fence corner, forced her to the ground and accomplished his diabolical design. Graves then fled, but was pursued and captured two hours later and brought to Jefferson City for safe keeping. This morning while Graves was being conveyed to jail at Canton, Mo., Annie, husband of the lady, stopped into the car and shot the negro dead. Graves is an ex-convict, having served a term in the penitentiary for rape and larceny.

PARIS, May 3.—A telegram of unquestionable trustworthiness announces the commencement of a bombardment at Odessa.

LONDON, May 3.—Lloyd's telegram from Constantinople has the following: The British steamer Wallachia has arrived here, having been ordered to leave Galatz. A blockade of the Black Sea may be declared at any moment. Several British steamers therefore are staying here. A Russian prize has been brought here with a cargo of salt.

LONDON, May 3.—A Rouser dispatch from Bucharest, dated April 30, says, a fire was opened at 10 o'clock this morning between the Russian batteries, near Ibrail, and three Turkish monitors. The latter began to bombard Ibrail, but were compelled towards noon to withdraw before the Russian fire. The loss of life and damage in Ibrail is unknown.

ODessa, May 3.—The Czar, Casarovich and Grand Duke Vladimir arrived here at 2 o'clock this afternoon and inspected the troops. The Russian flotilla has left for Kief.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 3.—It is stated that the Russians have occupied an island in the Danube near Ibrail, and the left bank of the river as far as the mouth of the Bomi.

THE Turkish official journal states that no important battle has been fought in Armenia. The Russian vanguard has only made an appearance at Batoum.

REPORTS are current of a Turkish defeat at Kars, and the capitulation of a Turkish corps, but the minister of war is understood to have contradicted the rumor.

PARIS, May 3.—Reports are circulating of great losses to the Russian advance through fever and fatigue.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 3.—Last Saturday night Henri de Forest was murdered and robbed at Santa Cruz. Two day last two Mexicans, Francisco Arias and Jose Chamalis, were arrested in the vicinity of the town on suspicion, and on examination confessed having committed the murder. A Santa Cruz dispatch to-day says the prisoners were forcibly taken from jail last night by a band of men, driven to a bridge over the creek near town and hanged to the cross-beams, where they were found this morning. Both were ex-convicts, and desperate characters. Chamalis confessed that the murder was committed for the purpose of obtaining funds to attend a circus.

ERZERUM, May 3.—A son of Schamir, the famous Circassian chieftain, was expected to take command of the Circassians, who, however, refuse to submit to military organization. Mourat Pasha's army is at Zenkai; forty miles west of Kars. A Russian division is also operating there.

The Wise Course in Rheumatism.

Rheumatic patients who have been induced to submit to depletion by blood letting, or to take colicium and other drugs of an equally pernicious character, will consult their well being by abandoning such insane procedures, and using as a substitute Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which will infallibly afford them the much desired relief, and is absolutely safe. This benign vegetable purgative cures the blood by expelling from it the inflammatory elements which give rise to maladies of a rheumatic and gouty type, and rectifies disordered conditions of the stomach, nervous system and bowels, which usually accompany them. As rheumatism has a tendency to attack the heart, the desirability of an early resort to the bitters is obvious, since the danger is increased by every moment of delay. [april 30 dwtw]

PACIFIC HOUSE.

CORNER OF WILLIAM AND MILL STS. O. N. 33, known as the Hickaday Hotel, is now prepared to receive boarders at the rate of \$2.50 and \$4.00 per week. DR. H. H. MORRIS, Proprietor. Decatur, May 1, 1877—dwtw

N. LAUX & BRO.

WE HAVE OPENED A New Undertaking Establishment Two Doors South of the Saint Nicholas Hotel.

We have engaged the services of a Practical Undertaker, who will superintend all funerals, having a fine hearse and carriages, and a large supply of

Wood & Metallic Caskets.

We solicit a share of public patronage.

COFFINS!

TRIMMINGS AND SHROUDS, at wholesale.

ST. NICHOLAS

LIVERY, FEED

SALE STABLE.

First-Class Outfits. N. LAUX & BRO. Decatur, May 1, 1877—dwtw

FOR SALE!

One Good House and Two Good Lots.

Situated on the corner of West Eldorado and North College streets, a good house with seven rooms and cellar, good outbuildings, terms of payment or rate of interest on the place—ALF. AT HANDEKOPF. PRICE. Apply to Wood & Montgomery. April 25—dwtw

SEE HOW CHEAP

NEW SPRING GOODS

HAYS & BARTHOLOMEW'S.

Decatur, Ill., April 9, 1877—dwtw

NEW GOODS!

S. EINSTEIN

Has just returned with a full line of SPRING and SUMMER DRY GOODS, consisting of a full line of PRINTS, BLEACHED and BROWN MUSLINS, DRESS GOODS of all colors and shades, BLACK ALPACAS, CASHMERE, GRENADES, SILKS, GINGHAMS, FLANNELS, JEANS and COTTONADES, also a full line of LADIES' and GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS. I will offer Great Bargains in these Goods to all who may favor me with a call. REMEMBER THE PLACE—

No. 21 NORTH WATER ST.

Decatur, March 31, 1877—dwtw

The Light Running Singer Sewing Machines.

DO NOT BUY UNTIL YOU HAVE EXAMINED THE "OLD RELIABLE SINGER!"

A full stock of TUCKERS, RUFFLERS, BINDERS, and General Supplies for all Machines.

GENUINE NEEDLES A SPECIALTY. Repairing done promptly and satisfaction guaranteed, at the SINGER OFFICE.

NO. 26 MERCHANT STREET, DECATUR. GEO. P. BLUME, Gen'l Agent.

Jan. 15, 1877—dwtw

OVERNIRE & KAUFMAN,

REAL ESTATE,

Insurance, Loan

COLLECTING AGENTS.

MONEY LOANED.

Notes Bought and Sold, Houses Rented and Taxes Paid. Special Attention given to Renting Houses. All business entrusted to us will receive careful and prompt attention.

OLD CAST IRON.

THE HIGHEST MARKET PRICE

Paid for the above, at the Union Iron Works, DECATUR, ILLINOIS. Dec. 19 1876—dwtw

ICE! ICE!

I am now prepared to deliver ICE in any part of the city in quantities to suit customers. My headquarters are at the corner of Main and Water streets. SAMUEL BRADLEY. April 9—dwtw

WOOD'S CONFECTIONERY.

ON MERCHANT STREET. and all orders left there will receive prompt attention. April 9—dwtw

RESIDENCE LOTS.

I WISH TO SAY TO ALL PARTIES PROPOSING TO BUILD A HOUSE, or who wish to be improving premises on which to build a house, that I have decided to build a house in nearly all parts of the city that I am offering on very favorable terms of price, terms of payment or rate of interest on the place—ALF. AT HANDEKOPF. PRICE. Apply to Wood & Montgomery. April 25—dwtw

THE CITY

Free No. 4. ...the injured by ...Go to N. Mound, ...Newell & H. of keeping a full too. ...Harvey De with all ...Faint pots are out again. ...The circuit May term is small. ...Both single direction of S. Brannaman's ...For each set, depot, or for in part of the city, den for Taylor strong's. ...E. Post is watching closely much below his stock. ...Remember meeting of the evening past. ...A new two lambrequins at A. ...For each set, stomach and for felt ...sleight to "G. day. ...Ye, ye, man felt good's ...For pure per cles in glass ...The nobilit at the stable of L. of the St. Woon. ...Champaign is tour mineral keep paign, and the troupe a thousand ...Here is good from an ...is circulation. ...Your debt is fu patience with om goods of home in home enterprise patronage ...Abel & Look the latest styles the ...lower ...The walk of new building, on nearly up to the first of the w for occupation is a will make a very some business. ...Mr. E. B. taken ...the corner of Chas which ...in excellent repair. ...While what about fifty cents reached, there had in the price of flour that our miller wit of the dealer is at ...Circuit Court. Several of the notified to appear in preparing papers court, asking for the other follow will equally maxims At \$1.60 per day. ...There's danger up north had had of promise. And that has over ruled his will. He frequently hugged we ...men in this city the foundation for out. ...All complaints being obstructed merchandise, mayor or city what the ordina things, and will where there are provided. ..."W. B. born" they ...year then they on The high price of all winter, ...probable ...on the ...killed off the ...so that the ...danger from that ...A young man Black Hill ...some paper that in four dollars per day but when he ...it cost him ...poor ...normal ...cured. ...house ...R. G. ...which ...The ...lighted ...work, ...economy and com

